

GENERAL SECRETARIA1.

No. G. 4185-Mly. 97-30-2, dated 21st October 1930.

The following communique issued by the Government of India, Army Department, regarding the formation of duty squadrons on mobilisation is published for general information.

Letter No. A. 41049-1 (A. G.-2) from the Government of India.

ARMY DEPARTMENT.

Dated Simla the 29th August 1930.

I am directed to say that the Government of India sanction the accompanying scheme for the registration, in peace, of discharged soldiers willing to be employed in duty squadrons (dismounted) of the Army in India to be formed on mobilisation.

2. Each Cavalry Group Centre will be responsible for carrying out the registration in peace and the calling up on mobilisation of personnel for one duty squadron.

3. No expenditure (other than on account of postage) will be incurred in peace in connection with the registration of the above personnel.

4. Local Governments and Administrations are being asked to make the provisions of the scheme known to as many ex-Indian officers and other ranks as possible.

Scheme for the registration in peace time of discharged soldiers willing to be employed in Duty Squadrons (dismounted) of the Army in India, on mobilisation.

1. *Recruitment.*—For purposes of recruiting, raising and maintenance of personnel, each duty squadron will be attached to a Cavalry Group Centre.

2. *Registration in peace time.*—Officers Commanding Cavalry Group Centres, will, in peace time, maintain registers containing particulars of ex-Indian officers and ex-soldiers of their own groups, who are eligible and willing to serve in these duty squadrons. No payment will be made on registration and no retaining fee will be admissible.

Special forms for use on registration (India Army Form 942) and for calling up men on mobilization (India Army Form 941-A) have been introduced and will be supplied on indent to registration officers.

3. *Procedure on mobilization.*—On general mobilization, the Officer Commanding the Cavalry Group Centre will immediately call up men registered for employment with the duty squadron of his Group Centre, up to the numbers considered necessary, according to the state of expansion of the Group Centre (*vide* War Establishments, India, Volume IV). From the date on which they join, they will become part of the Group Centre and will take over routine dismounted duties at the discretion of the Commanding Officer.

4. *Eligibility.*—All ex-Indian officers and ex-soldiers, including ex-reservists, whether discharged or pensioned, will be eligible for re-employment or re-enrolment in duty squadrons, provided that they bear a good character and are medically fit for service in India.

Officers and men (except ex-reservists and pensioners) who are medically fit for service in the field will not be accepted, as this might affect detrimentally recruitment for fighting units.

5. *Terms of service.*—(a) Ex-Indian officers will be re-employed in the permanent rank held by them on retirement. They will, however, be employed, with due consideration to their rank and seniority, in the duties for which they are considered suitable by the Officer Commanding Cavalry Group Centre, to which they are attached and will receive the pay and allowances of the appointment held (within the ranks and numbers authorised in the war establishment for a duty squadron) as received by incumbents of similar appointments in permanent units.

Ex-non-commissioned officers and men will be re-employed in the rank and appointment considered most appropriate to their previous rank and to their qualifications at the time of re-employment.

(b) Service will be for the period of war (or emergency) and 12 months thereafter provided that their services are so long required.

(c) Enrolment and attestation will be on India Army Form K-1162. Attestation will be carried out immediately on enrolment.

(d) Promotion in and to Indian commissioned and non-commissioned rank may be made as required to complete establishment.

6. *Class Composition*.—As far as possible, the class composition of the duty squadron will correspond to that of the regiments of the group to which it belongs. The proportion of classes in the duty squadron is left to the discretion of the Cavalry Group Centre Commander.

7. *Pay and Allowances*.—(a) The officer commanding the duty squadron will be entitled to pay as admissible to an officer regimentally employed in the same capacity.

(b) Whilst actually employed, Indian officers and other ranks of Indian duty squadrons will be entitled to emoluments as follows:—

(i) Pay of rank at Indian cavalry rates.

(ii) Pension already earned.

(iii) Good service, good conduct or proficiency pay: (a) During service in the rank of sowar, good conduct or proficiency pay at the rate to which entitled immediately prior to discharge. (b) On promotion to non-commissioned rank, good service pay or the good conduct pay to which the soldier's character and service on the active list, viewed as that of a sowar would entitle him, whichever is more favourable.

(c) Service with duty squadrons will count as qualifying service for pension in cases where a pension has not already been earned subject to the usual condition as regards the refund of gratuity which may have been received, but in no case will such service be permitted to count towards any increased rate of pension where pension has already been earned.

(d) The squadron clerk will receive grade pay as admissible to a third grade clerk.

(e) The following squadron allowances will be admissible:—

(i) An initial grant of Rs. 30 to cover the cost of purchase of books and stationery.

(ii) A monthly allowance of Rs. 30. These allowances will be drawn on the following conditions:—

(a) The initial grant when the squadron is started.

(b) Half the monthly allowance when 50 and the full allowance when 100 men have been enrolled in the squadron.

8. *Rations*.—Free rations while employed, as admissible to the Indian Army, vide scales of rations and supplies issued by the Indian Army Service Corps.

9. *Passages*.—Free passages by rail, road, river and sea from their place of residence to the unit and thence to their homes on demobilization.

10. *Furlough and leave*.—Casual leave only will be admissible during the first year's service in duty squadrons, after which 2 months' leave and 2 months' furlough may be granted in alternate years at the discretion of the officer commanding the regiment, provided the exigencies of the service so permit.

On demobilization, one month's leave on full duty pay will be granted.

11. *Followers*.—Will be engaged as class II followers at the lowest rates of pay at which obtainable locally [Army Instruction (India) No. 287 of 1922].

12. *Equipment and clothing*.—No clothing allowance will be admissible. Clothing and equipment will be issued on the scales laid down in Equipment Tables, and will remain the property of Government.

13. *Periodical verification*.—Verification of all men registered for duty with duty squadrons will be carried out annually by Local Governments and Administrations on nominal rolls showing last known addresses which will be supplied to them by Officers Commanding Cavalry Group Centres on the 1st April of each year. In the case of men who reside in the Indian States of Patiala, Kashmir and Gwalior, the verification will be carried out by means of reply-paid postcards despatched by the Officers Commanding Cavalry Group Centres, to those registered by them.

By Order,

R. RANGA RAO,

General Secretary to Government.